

Happy New Year!

from our family to yours

CITY NEWS

THE NEW JOURNAL OF CIVILIZATION

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National News

Chorus of demands for changes at NAACP increase

Many traditional, and well-known, African-American leaders are calling for nine-year NAACP Chairman, William Gibson, to step down for the benefit of that organization. Recently a group, calling itself "concerned NAACPers" under the name of a "Committee To Save the NAACP," called for the immediate resignation of Gibson, an independent audit of all NAACP finances and a search for an executive director. Dr. G. Delores Tucker and other current and/or former members of the NAACP's Board of Directors cited a laundry list of charges against Gibson and former Executive Director Ben Chavis saying, "We come before the public to sound the alarm. The NAACP is in grave crisis. We are deeply concerned about its future. Numerous NAACP state presidents, such as Thomas Smith of Pennsylvania and Gregory Wims of Maryland, have called for Gibson to resign. Blacks in the media, such as columnists Carl Rowan and Armstrong Williams and New York Amsterdam News publisher Wilbert Tatum have also called for Gibson's resignation." For the benefit of the organization, Dr. Gibson, a South Carolina dentist, has denied any wrongdoing and says he has the support of the majority of the NAACP's 64-member board.

Black publishers meet in January in Tampa

National Newspaper Publishers Association President Robert Bogie and Convention Chair Melvin Williams have announced that the organization's Mid-Winter conference for 1994 will be held in Tampa, Florida, January 18 to 21, 1995. The NNPA expects that hundreds of the nation's leading opinion molders will attend the proceeding.

Nubian Santa spreads cheer

Dear Nubian Santa:

When letters addressed to Nubian Santa arrived at the Office of Affirmative Action of the New Jersey Highway Authority, a question was asked, what's a Nubian Santa?

The Affirmative Action manager had to laugh to herself for she could easily imagine the reactions of some of the third graders when their teachers, Ms. Bryant and Ms. Freeman suggested the writing assignment. Like the character in the *Miracle of 34th Street*, who did not believe that Santa was real, there was further skepticism from this group in believing that a white Santa Claus in this driving a reindeer and sleigh would come to their neighborhood.

Through the reading of the letters, one could almost hear Ms. Freeman, a Princeton trained educator, suspending the disbelief of the children by telling the story of Egypt's Golden Age where Ramesses II and his beautiful Nubian wife, Nefertari ruled in Africa which the Greeks referred to as "Ethiopia or Nubia," the land of burnt faces.

The idea of playing Santa was initiated by Lawrence Koe, Area Manager of the New

Jersey Highway Authority and one of the eleven volunteers from the Authority who is a Teacher's Assistant at Alexander Street School. As a father, he had noticed the difference in this school district and his own child's where all of the seasons and holidays were observed with festive parties and decorations. During Halloween, he purchased festive cupcakes and juice for the children. One of Larry's greatest joys is playing Santa during the Christmas season.

Once Larry made a decision to play Santa, the other Authority teacher assistants pitched in to collect gifts from employees of the Garden State Parkway.

On December 20, the Nubian Santa arrived at the Alexander Street school slightly after 10:00 a.m., where he presented gifts to about 55 children in kindergarten. Then Santa visited the 48 third graders of Project 2000. Their eyes lit upon receiving stuffed animals, Power Rangers, trucks, basketballs, Barbie dolls, along with fruit and Christmas cookies.

Some of the children wrote letters to



Lined up to see Santa are kindergartners who take turns telling Lawrence Koe, the Nubian Santa, that they have been good. Looking on from left to right are: employees of the New Jersey Highway Authority, Luis A. Hernandez, Ollie M. Davis, Ronelle Heath and Carl Onque. The New Jersey Highway Authority is a participant in Project 2000.

Students, officials say no to violence

by Paul Joseph

Events Anyways, an 18-year-old senior at Irvington High School, is a bright, energetic student who appears to be heading in the right direction.

"I am a minority male. I'm in school. I don't have a prison record, and I'm college bound," he said.

However, as a young urban African-American male he realizes one thing: at the blink of an eye, his bright future might come to a chilling, abrupt halt by an unyielding bull while walking home from school or crossing the hall to his next class.

"In our school, the desire to stay alive has to compete with the desire to learn," Anyanwu said.

According to the Department of Law and Public Safety, violence among New Jersey teenagers is on the rise. Last year, \$4,819 criminal acts were perpetrated by those under the age of 18. Statistics also show that violence is the major killer of young African American males in New Jersey and throughout the nation.

"If statistics prove to be correct, I am an endangered species," the young man said, adding, "I am soon to be extinct."

The senior's view was one of many aired by teens at a recent taping of "Word Up—Stop the Violence," a New Jersey Network Town Meeting in Trenton geared at addressing the problem of youth violence in New Jersey. The program featured Gov. Christine Todd Whitman and special guest actor Edward James Olmos, star of the powerful feature film *American Me*, and was hosted by Miguel Perez, host of *NBA's inner city*.

Whitman told the audience of mostly primary and secondary schoolers that "we (her administration) doing everything that we can," and that violence is a problem that has been building up for a number of years.

"We have to get all the violence from within that leads you (young people) to want to strike out in any way, shape or form," the governor said.

Olmos stressed that only a small percentage of teens are involved in criminal activities and that the "majority of the youth is doing well."

He said violence was not a juvenile problem but an adult health problem, and that parents should get involved in their children's lives before they get infected by the violence bug.

"We don't want our children to get polio. We give them vaccine," Olmos said, adding, "Why are we leaving our children to be infected by violence before we get involved?"



Actor Edward James Olmos discusses teen violence with students.

He urged that conflict resolution should be introduced as part of the American school curriculum from the day a child sets foot in a classroom throughout its college years.

The teens also heard gripping tales of the impact of violence from Wilson Murphy and "Nestor," members of People Opening the World's Eyes Through Reality (P.O.W.E.R.). Both men had been shot and are paralyzed.

Murphy, 34, and father of two young girls, was shot seven times by an unknown assailant. One bullet was lodged in the back of his head.

Using himself as an example, Murphy told the kids that they need to see the repercussions of a bullet.

"It is important to show what a shot does to someone's family and others in the lives of that person."

(Continued on page 3)

Newark receives \$3 mil consolation prize

by Paul Joseph

Newark has received a \$3 million urban Enterprise Community grant as part of President Bill Clinton's effort to revitalize America's cities, but loses its bid for \$100 million in federal Empowerment Zone funding, officials announced last Wednesday.

A joint application placed by the cities Camden, NJ and Philadelphia, PA beat out "Renaissance City" in the "Empowerment Zone" (EZ) contest. However, Newark is one of 95 cities in the nation and the only one in the state to be designated as an "Urban Enterprise Community" (EC) by the Clinton

Administration.

Sen. Bill Bradley (D-NJ), although expressed disappointment for the city's loss, praised business, community leaders and private citizens who combined their efforts in putting together the city's application for the President's urban agenda.

"This is no time for our grapes," Bradley said at a press conference held at the New Community Corporation Center in Newark. "I wish I could be here with better news, but I'm bringing a great deal of optimism about Newark's future."

The senator told the community "not to be discouraged" and "we have done well." He welcomed the \$3 million in funding as "an opportunity to take some of the best pieces of the Empowerment Zone application and make them work."

Congressman, and the recently elected chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, Donald Payne (D-NJ) also expressed dismay, however. "Life goes on" and "we must rise from the ashes," he said.

He also said one bright spot which came from the entire process was that "it did get community people involved in the develop-

ment of the city's future." Payne said groups that normally did not interact with one another came together to put the city's plan together. "Now, they are interacting with each other," he said.

Glenn A. Grant, the business administrator for Newark, said the \$3 million will be used to provide "technical assistance to enhance the capacity of community-based organizations to provide better delivery of services to their constituents."

Although he did not give specifics on how the city plans to implement the "technical assistance" he said that he will work closely with grassroots organizations, community and social service organizations to help boost economic viability in the city.

Newark will share a portion of the funds with Elizabeth. The cities had filed a joint application. At Faella, director of neighborhood services for Elizabeth, said he was happy that Newark had won and that the Union County city's portion will be used to fund the Kapokowski Project, a plan aimed at developing retail businesses in Port Elizabeth.

Also at the conference, Msgr. William,

founder of New Community Corp., which served as a model for the city in developing a plan, said the process was good for the city and marks the beginning of future economic programs.

"Our neighborhoods need us, and we are it," he said as he thanked Bradley and Grant for their efforts in working with community groups. More than 100 community groups came together in Newark to devise a federal plan that would create housing, and economic opportunity for the city.

In a released statement, Newark Mayor Sharpe James said he was proud that Newark was the only city in New Jersey selected as an EC.

"The funding will be used to expand the work of non profit agencies and continue neighborhood development activities and job training for zone residents," he said, adding, "we also will be looking closely at the bond and tax incentives programs that are available to enterprise communities."

The grants were given out as part of a competition by the Clinton Administration to

(Continued on page 6)

UNCF gets annual boost from Lou Rawls' Parade of Stars

HOLLYWOOD, CA—The Lou Rawls Parade of Stars Telethon will celebrate its 15th birthday on Saturday January 7, with more than 50 of the entertainment world's top performers taking center stage to support the United Negro College Fund (UNCF).

Led by telephone and Grammy award winning singer, Lou Rawls, the "Parade of Stars" promises to also showcase the energy level provided by the tapping, hand-clapping, spectacular entertainment for seven continuous hours. The program remains television's only national fund-raising event to benefit education.

A 15-year partnership between UNCF, Rawls, the entertainment industry, Amuseur-Busch Companies and other leading U.S. corporations and the American public has contributed to the success of the Parade of Stars. More than \$120 million in cash and pledges have been generated by the program since 1979 to benefit 41 private, historically black colleges and universities that UNCF supports.

"Since day one, we Parade of Stars has been a national team effort," says Rawls, who provided the initiative to build the annual drive into a star-studded event.

"Everyone involved has played an important role in helping to keep the doors of opportunity open for today's youth."

Celebrities from all segments of the entertainment world will draw viewers when the curtains rise at CBS Studios in Hollywood and from the historic Apollo Theater in

New York City.

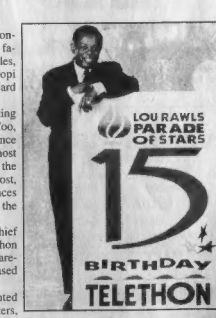
On hand to provide seven hours of non-stop, high voltage performances will be favorites Anita Baker, Boyz II Men, Ray Charles, Patti LaBelle, Luther Vandross, Whoopi Goldberg, Daryl Hall, Oleta Adams, Willard Scott and Eddie Murphy.

Returning to assist Rawls with co-hosting duties on the program are Marilyn McCoo, who has anchored the telethon since 1983, and popular television game show host Alex Trebek. They will be joined from the Apollo Theater in New York City by co-host, Gladys Knight, who is still thrilling audiences of all ages after more than 20 years in the entertainment business.

William H. Gray III, president and chief executive officer of UNCF, says the telethon has significantly increased the public's awareness of UNCF colleges and has also increased contributions to the College Fund.

"Because of Lou Rawls, his talented friends and many of our corporate supporters, the cause of the United Negro College Fund has been brought directly into millions of homes across America," Gray said. "This undoubtedly has made a difference in our fund-raising efforts, and we are deeply appreciative of the telethon team's dedicated efforts."

Contributions to the Lou Rawls Parade of Stars Telethon benefit UNCF colleges and universities that collectively enroll more than 54,000 students. The quality of education students receive at UNCF schools is reflected



in the enrollment growth which has climbed steadily.

The "Lou Rawls Parade of Stars" telethon is made possible with the support of its national and founding sponsor, Amuseur-Busch Companies. The St. Louis-based corporation underwrites the program production, provides national promotional, advertising and marketing support for the program through its Budweiser brand, and underwrites

(Continued on page 3)

Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

JERSEY CITY—The Media Arts Department of the Jersey City Public Library will show films for their December theme "Dreaming of a White Christmas" at the Five Corners Branch Library at 1 p.m. For more info, call 201-547-4546.

NEWARK—The New Jersey Historical Society will have a **Kew-Fans Family Celebration** from noon to 4 p.m. For info, call 201-483-3939.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30

JERSEY CITY—CAS and Miller Branch Library host a **Kew-Fans Family Celebration** from noon to 4 p.m. For more info call 201-547-4551.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

JERSEY CITY—Hudson County Community College is offering a one-day class from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. "The GED Practice Test" students are able to take practice GED exams to see if they are ready for the actual exam. For more info call 201-714-2107.

JANUARY 5-FEBRUARY 23

JERSEY CITY—"How to Achieve Discipline: A New Workshop for Parents and Educators" will take place at Hudson County Community College. For more info call 201-714-2107.

NOW THRU JANUARY 6

SUMMIT—There will be an exhibition of "Paintings from New Jersey Collections" at the New Jersey Center for Visual Arts. For more info, call 908-275-9121.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

NEWARK—There will be a tribute to Martin Luther King featuring guest speaker Lawrence Hamm at the Newark Public Library at 2 p.m. For more info call 201-643-7711.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18

CRANFORD—Union County College will conduct a **Admissions Workshop** at its campus in Cranford. For more info, call 908-709-7518.

MONTH OF JANUARY

JERSEY CITY—The Jersey City Library will sponsor a host of films each Wednesday throughout the month, at 7 p.m., including Tomatoes, A Bronx Tale, Another Stake Out and The Fugitive. For more info call 201-547-4546.

Send Community Calendar events to City News,

P.O. Box 1774 Plainfield, NJ 07061

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

PISCATAWAY—The Circle Players of Piscataway will hold their openhouse monthly meeting at 6 p.m. For more info call 908-966-7955.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4

NEW YORK—There will be a symposium on the exhibit: Images of Struggle and Spirit from 2 to 6 p.m. For more info call 212-423-1672.

NEWARK—The Vailsburg Child Development Center needs books, games and supplies. Any one interested in supplying the daycare center please contact Alma Vincenzi at 201-741-6450.

PLAINFIELD—The Plainfield Board of Education is looking for residents to serve on the Citizens School Budget Advisory Committee. For more info call 793-3151.

JERSEY CITY—The Jersey City Library will be closed for the New Years week and will reopen at the regular hour on Tuesday 1/3/95. For more info call 201-547-4381.

JANUARY 5-17

WAYNE—William Paterson College is offering a study tour to Costa Rica. For more info call 201-595-2436.

MONDAY, JANUARY 9

WESTFIELD—A support group for people caring for elderly or chronically ill relatives meets at 6 p.m. at St. Helen's Church. For more info call 908-233-8757.

NOW THRU JANUARY 19

JERSEY CITY—Hudson County Community College's Continuing Education Department is offering several computer classes this fall. For more info, call 201-714-2107.

JANUARY 24, 26 AND 30

JERSEY CITY—A tribute to Martin Luther King. Karen DeAngelis will give three lectures at Jersey City State College. To register and for times call 201-200-3189.

NOW THRU JANUARY 23

MANHATTAN—The Museum of the City of New York is featuring a special exhibition entitled "A New Year Holiday" Admission is free. For more info call 212-534-1672.

College student Stacey Allen (2nd from r) is the grand prize winner of the Revlon Fabulizer Style Search Contest, a nationwide essay competition among African-American women to find a young woman who best expresses unique personal style. Contestants were asked to write an essay expressing their feelings on their own personal style and how hairstyle plays a role in that style. Allen and contest runner-up Alana Johnson were honored at an awards luncheon at B. Smith's restaurant. The grand prize includes a \$10,000 scholarship, a week's trip for two to New York and an appearance on the cover of the March 1995 issue of YSB. Pictured (from l to r) Elaine McClaine, Revlon director of marketing; Carlos Colomer, chairman Revlon professional products worldwide; (back) Maria Jones, Revlon VP of marketing; Alana Johnson, contest runner-up; singer Brandy; Veronica Webb, Revlon spokesperson; Stacey Allen; Frank Dexter Brown, editor-in-chief of Luisa Fairborne, national advertising sales director, YSB Magazine.



Robert Curvin, Vice President of the Ford Foundation, will reflect on "Taking Stock Since the Kerner Commission: Have We Separate Societies?" on Sunday, January 15 at 10:45 a.m. in Maplewood. Curvin, a former member of the New York Times editorial board, will speak at the Ethical Culture Society of Essex County, 516 Prospect Street and Parker, above Columbia High School, in Maplewood. Curvin directs the Ford Foundation's Urban Poverty Program, which currently provides approximately \$50 million annually for programs in early childhood development, youth development, employment and welfare reform, as well as community development. The public is invited.



Newark Mayor Sharpes (right) receives the "Neighborhood Gem Award" from Whit Haskel, promoter of Walt Disney's World On Ice, during performance of the "Newark Night" Disney show at the Brendan Byrne Meadowlands Arena.



NEWARK—Members of the Beta Alpha Omega Chapter, Newark of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. shown with UNCF Executive Director Emmett Jordan at the kick-off reception for UNCF telethon that was recently held at the Newark Museum. The chapter will present \$1,000 to UNCF.

NEWARK—Newark Police Director William R. Celester (2nd from r) and Glen Grant, Business Administrator (kneeling) were on hand to commission the newest addition to the police department's Marine Division. A 30-ft. Boston Wheeler. The boat nicknamed Robert Treat, was donated to the Newark Police Department by a federal agency at no cost to the city. The craft, capable of reaching speeds of up to 50 knots, will be used by the newly created Water Rescue and Scuba Unit as part of the police department's search and rescue mission. Looking on are Councilman Harry Martinez (l), and Thomas O'Reilly, Newark Chief of Police (3rd from r) and an unidentified police officer.



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OPINION EDITORIAL

Last words for 1994

Count your blessings,
take inventory of your strengths,
cherish your loved ones,
welcome new challenges
hold on to good friends,
appreciate your family,
foster good health,
take advantage of opportunities,
be proud of who you are,
and you will have
peace, love and prosperity
in the new year.

by Connie Woodruff

For many of the state's political leaders, 1995 can't come too soon. Frankly, 1994 was a helluva year for Democrats in and out of New Jersey. But particularly in Essex County and the urban centers of Newark, East Orange, Irvington and Orange, things were chaotic and frustrating.

County and city officials went to jail in droves while some of their colleagues faced a slew of indictments on a variety of charges that are less than frivolous. It's been enough to make the most jaded among us wonder what the heck is going on?

It appears a lot of political ugliness will continue in the new year as state and federal investigators extend their probes of elected officials at county and municipal levels.

Last January, who would have thought then-county executive Tom D'Alessio or Newark councilwoman Marie Villant would join the long list of New Jersey political convicts? No matter how short the jail time, the embarrassment of the incarceration counts for them and the public they represent.

Neither could anybody foresee that replacing former U.S. attorney general Michael Cherof would send him straight into the arms of a newly elected Republican county exec, Jim Treffinger, at a special counsel to advise him on county matters.

Given a 4 to 1 Democratic majority in Essex County, when the 1994 campaign kicked off last winter, it was anticipated by most that Cardell Cooper would be the successor to Tom D'Alessio. But when the flicker of fate tempted county Democratic chairman Tom Giblin to challenge Cooper in the primary election the party was divided and the result was a close victory for Freeholder Treffinger.

Treffinger and another recent former Essex County executive, Nick Amato, have something in common. Both were Democrats turned Republicans when they were elected.

But, unlike Amato, Freeholder Treffinger appears to be reaching out for the inclusion of more Republicans as part of his advisory group and in the circle folks. Can this be a definite sign that under this Republican it won't be business as usual for his former Democratic colleagues?

Crucyball continues to show troubled times ahead for Newark political leaders with only a couple of possible escapes. Congressman Donald Payne, the new chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, is expected to stab each other in the back. Similarly, a potential future candidate for mayor in Newark's

1998 municipal election and State Senator Wynona Lipman who always manages to find herself on the sound and fury of political controversy.

Newark elected officials have another problem. Pockets of voters are making it perfectly clear they are not happy with the status quo and are demanding to see real change. That's all the sitting council members.

There was a time in the good ole days of raucous city council meetings when members of the council would punch each other out. Well, those days seem to be making a comeback but instead of turning on each other, the council and members of the public are the antagonists in the public shouting matches that are growing in frequency and intensity.

For one of the rare times in Newark's political history a woman appears to be leading the charge. Dr. Colleen B. Walton, a former candidate for mayor in 1994, has become a familiar figure at council meetings and is credited with initiating a recall movement that has to be giving the council sleepless nights and restless days.

Dr. Walton is a crusader for the rights of children, fair taxes, neighborhood stability and co-founder of the Newark Alliance for People Power. She also garnered a respectable number of votes in her first bid for elected office.

Instead of fading into the woodwork after her defeat last May, she has continued to organize and agitate "little people" city-wide, encouraging community protesters to become political watchdogs.

Among those who seem to have joined the new people's movement is Frank Hurtz and Andy Washington, two long-time city council foes who have emerged after a long hiatus of public involvement.

Newark City Hall is hardly tranquil these days as speculation runs high concerning the fates of councilmen Gary Harris and Ralph Grant scheduled to go on trial within weeks.

There is uncertainty among the officials and departments forced to respond to state and federal subpoenas almost a daily basis.

Officials and workers alike view each other with suspicion as paranoia begins to set in and as unfounded rumors about who is "wired" and who is not, settles over the gold domed hall on Broad Street.

Nobody is escaping an extra degree of scrutiny, including Mayor James who is probably wondering why his public relations person can't make all the negative media attention go away like in happier days.

More than Newark politics are

the cynosure of all eyes in New Jersey and elsewhere. The city of East Orange faces budget woes that can't possibly be addressed sensibly with cooperation between the mayor and city council.

But there's no peace in the valley between Mayor Cardell Cooper and council president Yvonne Blake and members who support her over him. It's anybody's guess whether or not they can come together long enough to meet the deadline for submitting a budget to the state before they are penalized for not getting to the council on time.

The future foretells major layoffs. The question is whose ox will be gored in this method to present a budget that won't send the city into bankruptcy.

When Cooper was campaigning for county exec last summer there were high hopes he would succeed among the politicians who hoped to replace him as mayor. Now he's moved on to bigger and better political achievements.

That didn't happen and now those who began to campaign for a change in the structure of municipal government have an opportunity to renew their efforts for change that could affect all of the current office holders.

Maybe the survival instincts of Cooper and the council will encourage them to form an alliance no matter how fragile and shaky it may be.

The future will be just as tough for Irvington Mayor Sara Bost who has faced an inordinate number of crises since taking office last July. Life ain't been a crystal ball for the embattled chief executive who blames her city's fiscal woes on former Mayor Mike Steele—an act that brought a prompt response from Steele whose bitterness toward Bost has not abated even a little bit.

Bost is accused of turning to "outsiders" for advice on how to meet myriad problems in Irvington. These charges her political enemies have laid on with a vengeance that is surprising to those who genuinely respect her.

When she decided recently not to seek re-election as president of the board of county Freeholders so she could focus attention on Irvington problems that threaten to run amok, she endorsed fellow freeholder Joseph DiVincenzo of Nutley as her successor.

DiVincenzo's political career has been successfully nurtured for years by his boss and mentor, Steve Adubato of the North Ward Education Center. When Bost was campaigning for the office, another Adubato mentee, Adrienne Davis, clerk to the Board of

Freeholders was a campaign advisor to the mayor and will continue to be a dual office holder as Freeholder at large.

Orange Mayor Robert Brown is making a valiant effort to rise above the swirling controversy still engulfing his administration.

Several council members have been very vocal about plans to defrock the mayor and when it he stands for re-election. However, during the Christmas season things were relatively quiet as Brown went about his mayoral duties spreading cheer among kids, senior citizens and families in the town as though he doesn't have a care in the world.

Will 1995 be the year when inner city schools like those in the Newark system finally realize their whole purpose for being is to educate children?

Of course there are disruptive students, violence and uncaring parents. But there are also deep-seated problems nobody has addressed for more than two decades.

Schools have been protected by a battery of laws since the inception of public education fueled by public monies but what good are laws if they aren't enforced?

A major part of what's happening in the Newark school system right now must be laid at the feet of members of the Board of Education. The situation became worse when Newark went from an appointed to an elected board of mostly men and women with little or no administrative skills and prior academic experience.

A state takeover of Newark schools will undoubtedly be one of the major stories in 1995 and even as we speak many are speeding up the process as it is in high gear.

That may be a sad day for Superintendent Eugene Campbell and the sitting board, but it should be well for those who count most, the children. Schools have been protected by a battery of laws since the inception of public education fueled by public monies but what good are laws if they aren't enforced?

When Gene Campbell was a principal in the system he was considered one of the best. That is one of the reasons he was elected for the superintendent's job. So what happened?

Quite simply, this man who understands how to make the system work productively for inner city kids like those he supervised at Marcus Garvey school in the heart of the Central Ward, became the captive of Boards of Education more prone to accept the powers and perks of the office than the responsibility of developing a good product: students able to function and survive in the high-tech world of the 21st century.

THE PASTOR'S WORD

Power, greed and insecurity: the root of our problems

In a few days we will come to the end of what has been a tumultuous and very controversial year. From the beginning of the year it's been one thing after another, the tumult of most of the events this year demonstrated the deep divisions within the African-American community: the weakness of our leadership, the many problems facing the urban areas of this state, the battle between the urban and suburban areas of the county and state, the horrible plight of this state's largest public school system, divisive and bitter elections, the increase in racism and lack of tolerance, the rejection of the former county executive, indictment of three councilmen and the ongoing largest corruption investigation in the history of Newark.

These and other events leave a dark cloud over this county and in some respects this state. But as we look at these events, we see that they are only symptoms of a much larger cause. We will continue to face these kinds of problems in the future if we only deal with the symptoms and not the causes of these problems.

The clergy, over this last year, has received much criticism in some quarters because of our outspokenness and involvement in a host of issues and events. It has been said that we should not be involved in politics; we should not criticize black leadership. We were even accused of lying. What is interesting to us however, is that we were not criticized when we said nothing, raised no questions and just went along and agreed with whatever was done. How dare we speak on issues and become actively involved!

Our involvement this year was not based on wanting to be politicians but because of the issues and issues of poor judgment and moral values that had a deep and negative effect not only on our congregations but on our community at large.

When we look at most of the events and problems we have had over this year, almost all of them have their root in the quest for power, greed and insecurity; using political office to get revenge or to take our enemies, seeking position or

using position to one's personal benefit, pressuring and manipulating individuals and companies who seek to do business with school districts or government. All insecurity which caused us to hold one another back so no one would get ahead of us.

This quest for power threatened the voting rights of some citizens, the jobs of others and decisions on governance. All insecurity which caused us to hold one another back so no one would get ahead of us. This quest for power threatened the voting rights of some citizens, the jobs of others and decisions on governance. All insecurity which caused us to hold one another back so no one would get ahead of us.

There was a time, which seemed to end about 25 years ago when in the black community our churches were crowded. You could find our politicians, our community leaders, our teachers and parents and children in church. Our religion governed everything from how we treated our neighbors, to how we conducted our politics, how we spent our money, and how we raised our children. We were politically, mistreat our neighbor or harm to our children because our religion wouldn't let us. Today our religion has little or nothing to do with how we treat our neighbors, how we conduct our politics, how we spend our money or raise our children. The sad fact is you see fewer and fewer of our community leaders in church.

As we come to the close of a tumultuous and controversial year, we pray that each of us individually and collectively as a community will seek a deeper spirituality so that it will be the guiding force in our lives and in all we do. This will bless us individually and our community at large.

We pray for each of you. Best wishes in the new year.

The Rev. Reginald T. Jackson
The Rev. Raiford S. Wheeler
The Rev. Dwight Gill

Focusing on the principles of Kwanzaa year-round

by Sharon Khatidjah Vincent



We need to focus in on, as well as utilize the Nguzo Saba (Seven Principles) of Kwanzaa on a daily basis in our lives and throughout the year, as opposed to concentrating on them just during Kwanzaa time. We should use these principles to help guide us through these increasingly difficult times and develop concrete action plans to help us overcome any adversities that may confront us as a community.

Umoja, (Unity) is needed if we are to survive as a people. We can see the devastating results in our communities when we lack unity and "we" do not own "it." Individuals who could have made a difference getting so caught up in themselves and their own personal ambitions haven't helped improve the conditions that the masses of our people find themselves in. Whether we talk about our schools, local or state governments, businesses etc., we can clearly see that when decisions or plans moved away from servicing and benefiting the many, and only created opportunities for a very few, the avenues for further gains and advancements were stymied or lost.

If we commit ourselves to the principles of Ujamaa (Collective Work and Responsibility) we would all understand that it is up to each of us to take responsibility for our own lives first, and then to work together to

bring about positive changes for our community as a whole. Working together to solve problems is the only way that long term solutions are found.

Letting the principle of Nia (Purpose) guide us as we do this will ensure that we keep our attention on our most important goals and plans and not go off in different directions wasting important time.

With the bombardment of images and messages from the dominant culture that is hostile and negative to our people and community, we need Kujichagula (Self-Determination) as a constant reminder that it is up to us to define and speak for ourselves.

Our children being painted as wild, uncontrollable animals impact us all. When they see black men and women they don't make distinctions between who is a "good kid" or a so-called "bad kid" they lump all of them together. We should stop accepting the mainstream media's view on what they are doing or should be doing and help our children as well as ourselves become more determined to succeed against all odds.

We shouldn't allow others to tell us who are our leaders or who we should accept as spokespersons from our community. Attacks on individuals whom the people hold in great esteem and respect based on our analysis and determination about their character should be viewed with skepticism and a critical eye.

Nia is essential if we are to realize our plans. We have no time to listen to repetitive and empty rhetoric that lacks Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics). We have to rebuild our communities and support those institutions in our communities. To complain about other ethnic groups or

people who are buying up stores in our community because they employ the concept of Ujamaa is a waste of time and counter productive.

No one forces anyone to go to a particular store or eat at a particular restaurant, so if we support those establishments in our community that hold us in contempt and don't give us anything back to us, the fault is ours not theirs. We have the resources and means to build strong independent institutions and ensure that they are viable, if we work together to establish, build and support them.

If we have Imani (Faith) we will

be able to overcome any adversities that confront us. Faith in ourselves, our people and our community must be strong if we are to survive. Our ancestors had faith that's why we're here.

We can not let our children and future generations down by giving up now. Truly, if we believe in the righteousness and victory of our struggle, we'll never lose hope, and will be able to make it through each day with our principles intact and solidly guiding us through the peaks and valleys of our lives.

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Kids Kalendar

NOW THRU JAN. 8

NEW YORK—There will be 115 performances given by "Grandma" NY's favorite senior citizen clown at The Big Apple Circus, 35 W. 35th St. For more info call 212-268-2500.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

ENGLEWOOD—"Peter Pan" will be staged at the John Harms Center for the Arts at 11 a.m. For more info call 201-567-3600.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

NEWARK—The Newark Museum invites young people ages 3-15 to join in the 1994 Junior Museum Winter Festival at 1 p.m. For more info call 201-596-6550.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

NEWARK—Celebrate our own day mark at the Children's Museum of the Arts from noon to 3 p.m. For more info call 212-274-0986.

JANUARY 7 AND 8

TRENTON—New Jersey State Museum is hosting a Super Science Weekend with mini-exhibits, shows, booths, and lectures. For more info call 609-292-6308.

Send Kids Kalendar

events to:

City News,

P.O. BOX 1774,

PLAINFIELD, NJ 07060

YOUTH/EDUCATION/SUCCESS

New Jersey youth sought for leadership congress

SOMERSET—The American Diabetes Association, New Jersey Affiliate, Inc. is pleased to offer a unique leadership training experience for youth ages 16-21 at the American Diabetes Association (ADA) 1995 Youth Leadership Congress (YLC) April 28-May 1, at the Key Bridge Marriott in Arlington, VA.

"The YLC offers delegates a well-rounded program of lectures, discussions and workshops, as well as leisure activities including tours of Washington, D.C.," said Irene Sills, MD, Youth Services Chairperson. "This time together offers young people the invaluable experience of sharing the personal aspects of growing up and living with diabetes, developing leadership skills and networking with the Association's youth volunteer leaders."

This leadership conference is open to youth who may or may not have diabetes. All delegates who have diabetes must be capable of good self-

management. Applicants will be judged on their leadership skills, involvement in school and civic activities and their willingness to help youth with diabetes and the ADA. Only young person will be selected by the ADA Youth Services Committee to represent New Jersey at this year's YLC. The delegates travel and hotel expenses will be paid for by ADA.

Highlights of the YLC include sessions on breakthroughs in diabetes research; increasing public awareness; developing programs for people with diabetes; "Getting Personal" workshops and elections for 1995 National Youth Spokesperson and National Regional Youth Leaders. Additionally, delegates will be trained to conduct Congressional visits with U.S. Senators and Representatives.

To request a delegate application, call the American Diabetes Association, New Jersey Affiliate at (800) DIABETES by January 15.

East Orange mayor joins children for lunchtime caroling



EAST ORANGE—East Orange Mayor Cardell Cooper joins children of the East Orange YMCA Daycare during lunchtime caroling at East Orange City Hall.

High schools to participate in Lincoln-Douglas Debates

EAST BRUNSWICK—More than 160 debaters and coaches from 40 public high schools throughout the state attended the launch of Chemical Bank New Jersey's fourth annual Lincoln-Douglas Debate competition recently at the Brunswick Hilton in East Brunswick.

The actual high school debate competition through semi-finals will be a day-long event held in May at Rutgers University, New Brunswick. The finals will be held at New Jersey Network's television studio in Trenton and then broadcast in prime time.

At the launch, former N.J. Attorney General W. Cary Edwards and business reporter William Quinn offered their perspectives on both the negative and affirmative sides of the 1995 debate topic: "Resolved: Today's news media serve the best interest of the American public." In addition, senior officers of Chemical Bank New Jersey provided an overview of the upcoming competition and described the many benefits that debating affords students.

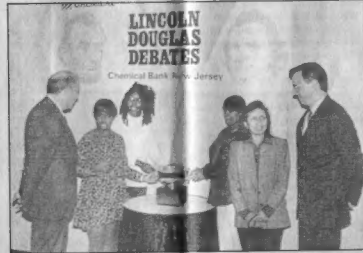
"Debating teaches students to research, communicate and develop

strong positions on some of society's most important issues. These are critical skills that will enable our future leaders to pursue careers and not just jobs," said Chemical's Edward McCabe, director, Human Resources.

Inspired by the famous 1858 Illinois senate debates between Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas, the Chemical program is designed to enhance students communication, research and analytical thinking skills. Unlike the usual one-on-one debate format, each school fields a team of three in either the experienced or inexperienced tier, allowing more students to participate.

Competition awards range from a \$50 savings bond for each participant to \$500 in cash and other prizes to the winning students and schools. Winning students are also considered for summer jobs at Chemical Bank New Jersey.

The competition is open to public high schools statewide. For information, registration or to inquire about rules or training, please contact Eugene Coladara at 908-220-3330.



Members of the East Orange High School debate team get some pointers from Star-Ledger business reporter William Quinn at the recent launch of Chemical Bank New Jersey's fourth annual Lincoln-Douglas Debate competition. The students will begin preparing their arguments for the May 1995 statewide competition, shown are (left to right): Kou Doffias, junior; Monica Murray, junior; Naima Henderson, junior; Philomena Guyre, debate coach; and Bill Quinn, business reporter, Star-Ledger.

Kwanzaa Word Search

Find and circle each one of the words listed below in the puzzle

Kujichagulia	Ancorans	Kinara
Kwanzaa	Pride	Mazao
Ujama	Nguza Saba	Faith
Umoja	Dun-Dun	Unity
Ujamaa	Africa	Peace
Nia	Love	Zawadi
Kuumba	Mikoa	
J R K U C M B S J A B O U K L S N B Y Z	G K W E V A Q N Z S R A R R A I J A M C P O L T O R K Q V X M W N E O Y K I N A E R I D U O I	I O A W A O M L Z R E J K I B B R N P S S I I N D E E M A Z A I T H M K

Girl scout council kicks off annual fund-raising campaign

NEWARK—The Girl Scout Council of Greater Essex County kicked off its annual Friends of Girl Scouting Campaign on December 6 at the Newark law offices of Medvin & Elberg. On hand to lend her support was Senator Wynona Lipman, Honorary Chair of the 1994 campaign.

Senator Lipman stated that the fund raising goal of \$35,000, in commemoration of the council's 35th anniversary, was attainable only if people followed her lead and pledged to become a Friend of Girl Scouting.

"Most people from the community at large are not aware that Girl Scout activities are more extensive than cookies and outdoor skills programs," said Lipman.

The Greater Essex Council currently provides Girl Scouting in homeless shelters and sponsors In-School Scouting for girls with special needs, as well as several programs designed to reach girls residing in the inner city. There are 7,600 Girl Scouts be-

tween the ages of 5 and 17 in the Greater Essex area.

"The donations we receive from our supporters enable more girls to benefit from Girl Scouting," said Council President Charlotte Coffin, a Glen Ridge resident.

Anyone interested in obtaining additional information may call Catherine Willis, Fund Development director, at 201-746-8200.



Pictured from left to right: Charlotte Coffin (Glen Ridge), Senator Wynona Lipman (Newark) and Helen Yelland (Irvington)

Students to receive \$5 million in scholarships

WASHINGTON—Minority college and university students who plan to major in chemistry or chemical engineering now have a new resource to help fund their education. The American Chemical Society (ACS), the world's largest scientific society, will provide \$5 million in scholarships over the next five years to needy students with good academic records.

In the first year (the 1995-96 academic year), the ACS Scholars Program will award at least 200 scholarships worth up to \$5,000 each. Students will be able to apply to continue their scholarships in subsequent years. Halley Merrell, director of the ACS membership division says the program is intended to "leave the student unencumbered with college loans or the need to work to support his or her education."

The scholarships will be awarded based on need and merit. Guidelines to be used in awarding the scholar-

ships include demonstrated financial need, a B average or better in science and math courses, and examples of leadership at school or in the community. Applications from students who plan to attend colleges that have mentoring programs for minorities will be encouraged.

Applications for the scholarships can be obtained from Dorothy Rodmann, 202/872-6250, or by mail c/o ACS, 1155-16th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. Scholarship winners selected by a committee appointed by ACS and made up of educators and industrial scientists will be announced in May 1995. The students may use the funds for tuition, books, supplies and lab fees.

Other ACS programs directed to minorities include community science grants, consulting help to predominantly minority colleges and universities, and videos to attract students to science.

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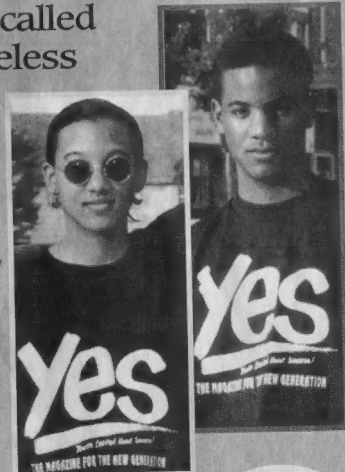
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Religious Calendar

NOW THRU JANUARY

SCOTCH PLAINS—The Times Office is accepting audition tapes from Christian performing artists looking for an opportunity to share your talents for its third annual *The TIMES New Artist Showcase* on Saturday, March 4, 1995. For more info call 908-322-9500.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 28
PLAINFIELD—There will be a mid-week service at 12:15 p.m. and a prayer service at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mark's Church. For more info call 908-754-9463.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 31
SCOTCH PLAINS—The Evangelical Church Assemblies of God will host a buffet, dinner concert and service at 8 p.m. to reflect on '84 and welcome '95. For ticket info, call 908-322-9300.

FRIDAY JANUARY 6
SCOTCH PLAINS—The 15th Anniversary banquet for Rev. William G. Howard will be held at Snuffy's Pantries Renaissance. Guest speaker will be Dr. Calvin O. Butts. For more info call Silvia Miller at 908-561-0028.

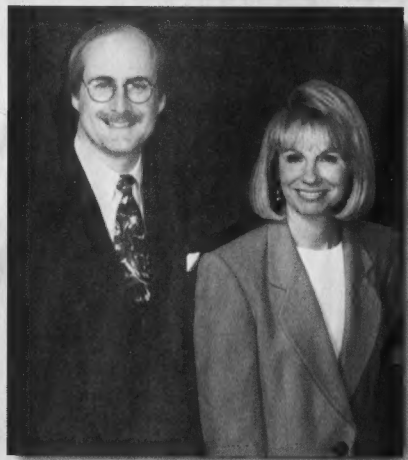
Send Religious Calendar events to City News
PO Box 1774,
Plainfield, NJ 07061

Volunteers needed for Emmanuel Cancer Foundation

SCOTCH PLAINS—The Emanuel Cancer Foundation is seeking volunteers for its Scotch Plains office at 346 Park Avenue. Volunteers are needed to do office work such as answering telephones typing and filing.

The Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing professional counseling, emotional support, and financial and material assistance to any New Jersey family with a child diagnosed with cancer. All services are offered without cost to families.

To volunteer call Elaine Fischbach at 908-322-4323.



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Community organizations receive over \$177,000 in aid

NEWARK—Seven community organizations have been given grants totaling \$177,813 from the Bell Atlantic Advisory Committee on Family Care (ACFC) to support various family care projects.

The grants are part of a \$1.3 million fund jointly administered by Bell Atlantic, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) and the Communications Workers of America (CWA).

Receiving the grants were the Senior Service Corps, Inc., Orange; Family Service Association, Abscon; Wyckoff Family YMCA, Wyckoff; Wayne General Hospital, Corn Associates in association with Wayne General Hospital Child Care Center; and The Boys and Girls Club of Wayne; and Project Read, a non-

profit agency in Newark.

Geared primarily for Bell Atlantic employees and their families, many of the activities made possible by the grants also will involve and assist the public.

A series of six informational fairs will be coordinated by the Senior Service Corps to inform older people, and those who care for them, about the many assistive devices that are

United Way seeking nominees for community service award

NEWARK—United Way of Essex and West Hudson is seeking nominees for the organization's William M. Ashby Community Service Award. Established in 1990, the award is named in honor of William Ashby, noted author, civil rights leader and founder of the Newark affiliate of the Urban League.

According to United Way President/CEO Dick Lewin, "In creating the Ashby Award, our United Way sought to honor Mr. Ashby's legacy of service, as well as to recognize those individuals whose contributions to our community reflect the ideals of the

award. The fairs will be held at Bell Atlantic buildings in Cedar Knolls, Jersey City, Newark, Freehold, Mount Laurel and Marmora.

The ACFC initially was formed to review and evaluate family care initiatives for employees, sponsor surveys, studies and reports, and assess family care initiatives in business. It was expanded to include elder care resource and referral services.

Outstanding leader after whom the award is named

Nominations are open to the public to help ensure a broad representation of nominees and to reflect the many diverse elements of our community.

Nomination forms and criteria for the award can be obtained by contacting the United Way of Essex and West Hudson Community Services Department at 201-624-8300, ext. 215. Deadline for nominations is January 10, 1995. The award will be presented at the United Way of Essex and West Hudson annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon in March.

Students say no

friends robbed.

"My mother is bugged out. It is hard for her to see her son go through what I had to go through," he said.

"Just because you pull a gun, it doesn't make you much of a man," he told the audience.

During the taping, many of the teens eloquently expressed their feelings on the issue. Most suggest that the lack of recreational activities for young people was a major contributor to the increase in violence in the state.

"If we had a lot more activities maybe more of the youths would be off the streets doing nothing," one audience member said who wanted to remain unidentified.

They also viewed "Lives in Hazard," a documentary produced by Olmos, which aired in April on NBC. The film concentrates on youth in gangs and the men they become in the prison system.

Also participating in the program were Doug Palmer, mayor of Trenton,

(Continued from page 3)

Daniel A. Haro, co-producer of "Lives in Hazard," a representative of the Mercer County Medical Association, and members of the Governor's Juvenile Task Force.

"Word Up!—Stop the Violence" is part of a comprehensive month long focus on youth violence. The program will air on Friday, January 13 at 8 p.m. and rebroadcast Sunday, January 15 at 10 p.m. Other documentaries that will air during the month include "Confronting Violence" and "What Can We Do About Violence: A Bill Moyers Special."

\$3 mil

(Continued from page 1)

build neighborhoods and bolster businesses.

In addition to Camden-Philadelphia, New York City, NY; Atlanta, GA; Baltimore, MD; Chicago, IL; and Detroit, MI qualified for \$100 million in urban federal aid.

Also, Kentucky Highland, KY; Mid-Dele, MS; and Rio Grand Valley, TX, were chosen as rural enterprise zones. Each received \$40 million in social service grants and tax break incentives.

Los Angeles, CA won \$125 million and Cleveland, OH received \$90 million. Both cities were designated as "Supplemental Enterprise Zones."

Four "Enhanced Enterprise Communities" including Boston, MA; Houston, TX; Kansas City, KS/Kansas City, MO and Oakland, CA will each receive \$25 million in federal aid.

The federal government made a pact with each of the EZs and the ECs whereby it will provide the distressed communities with the tools they need and the flexibility they desired in the form of block grants, tax breaks and waivers.

In return, the EZs and the ECs must demonstrate that they are taking responsibility for their future by developing and implementing a plan with the provided initiatives.

The selection process was based on the community's ability to satisfy the following:

- ✓ Ability to create jobs, attracting partnerships and training residents for job opportunities.
- ✓ Promoting physical and human development such as safe streets, clear air and water.
- ✓ Community-based partnership involving the entire community.
- ✓ Strategic vision for change.

In order to apply, communities had to meet certain eligibility criteria in regards to size, poverty rate, unemployment and general distress. The contest attracted 520 applications. Of that number 104 were designated as EZs and ECs. Communities had to be nominated by their states and were given six months to develop their plans.

The EZ/EC program was established in the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993. Under the program, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) chooses six urban EZs and 65 ECs. The United States Department of Agriculture is authorized to designate three rural EZs and 30 rural ECs. A Community Enterprise Board (CEB) set up by the President assists the organizations in implementing the program.

A review team of over 100 federal executives from the CEB analyzed the applications and made recommendations to HUD and the USDA. Finalists were made aware of their status. The winners were announced on December 19, 1994.

Plainfield safety director issues holiday safety advice

PLAINFIELD—Public Affairs and Safety Director Siddeeq El-Amin has issued a caution to everyone to exercise safety precautions at home and on the road this holiday season.

- Keep presents stored in the car trunk out of sight when shopping. If you have to place them inside the car, keep your windows clear for maximum visibility and your doors locked. Preferably, shop with a companion.
- When at home, keep your doors and windows locked. Some people will take advantage of the

season to enter your house under false pretenses in preparation for a later crime. Know who you let into your house and others only by appointment.

- Remember to be especially careful with Christmas lighting and trees. Don't overload electrical circuits and keep real trees in a tree stand that holds water.
- If you have a fireplace, keep the fire in a location away from the fireplace and keep the fireplace enclosed or screened off. Make sure you have smoke detectors installed and fire extinguisher on hand.

Parties prohibited at 1127 Watching Avenue

PLAINFIELD—As a result of receiving numerous consumer complaints and plans to rent party space at 1127 Watching Avenue, Safety Director Siddeeq El-Amin has announced a consumer warning to anyone planning to hold any type of event at The Ginna House, formerly known as the Monday Afternoon Club.

The current occupants of the property have been served Official Notice from the Division of Inspections that "no authority exists for any use of the property other than a single family dwelling." For occupants, this means the occupancy of the property is prohibited from engaging contracts to rent space for parties, weddings, receptions, etc.

Director El-Amin said, "under no circumstance should anyone sign a contract, and/or give any kind of

deposit, cash or check, to the occupants." The occupants and their legal representation have received the appropriate notices. Further, the occupants and their legal representation have not filed any applications for a variance with the Inspections Division or the Zoning Board.

"Although we must issue this caution at this time I want to assure the citizens of Plainfield that this Administrator welcomes the lawful and proper use of this property as an excellent location for holiday and personal celebrations when the proper variance is applied for and approved," said Mayor Fury.

El-Amin said, "If you have already signed a contract for use of the Ginna House, you should immediately try to find another location and seek a return of any deposits."

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ARTS WEDNESDAY

NOW THRU DECEMBER 31
PLAINFIELD—There will be an art exhibit at the Swan Galleries entitled "Christmas Miniatures." For more details call 908-755-1707.

NEW BRUNSWICK—The Crossroads Theater Company will exhibit the work of noted artist Larry Campbell and other artists. For more info call 908-249-5590.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28
MILLBURN—The Nutcracker will be performed at the Paper Mill Playhouse at 8 p.m. and 3 p.m. matinee. For more info call 201-376-4343.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29
HARLEM—There will be a Kwanzaa Celebration featuring Cheryl Byron and Something Positive at the Studio Museum at 7 p.m. For more info call 212-864-4500, ext. 237.

NOW THRU DECEMBER 31
NEWARK—The Newark Museum's "New Year's Eve Scholarship: Black and White Glass" at the Newark Museum at 7 p.m. For more info call 201-596-6638.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31
MANHATTAN—Boys to Men will appear at Madison Square Garden, Showtime at 8:30 p.m. For ticket info call 212-465-MSG1.

MANHATTAN—Vocalist Lennie Kazan will open "Lennie's Room" at the Regency Hotel. For more info call 212-339-4012.

NEW BRUNSWICK—The 100 Black Men's Legacy will hold an annual "New Year's Eve Scholarship: Black and White Glass" at the Newark Museum at 7 p.m. For more info call 201-596-6638.

MANHATTAN—WBOG and Cognac Hennessy present "New Year's Eve Coast to Coast" in the Empire State Ballroom at the Grand Hyatt Hotel at 7:15 p.m. For more info call 212-465-6882.

MANHATTAN—John, Hicks, Victor, Steve, Sam, Debbie and David Williams will appear at Bradley's, 79 University Place, at 8 p.m. For more info call 212-226-5445.

NOW THRU JANUARY 1
MALDEN—Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" will appear on the Plaza movie stage at Madison Square Garden. For more info call 212-465-8801.

NOW THRU JANUARY 3
ATLANTA—City of Atlanta in Concert will appear at The Grand Canyon Resort. For more info call 212-465-8801.

JANUARY 16 AND 15
PLAINFIELD—There will be a performance of the musical "The Sound of Music" at the Plainfield Playhouse at 8 p.m. For more info call 908-249-5590.

NOW THRU FEBRUARY 18
JERSEY CITY—There will be an art exhibition entitled "Shingo Chang: An Installation by Ban Jones" honoring the African Yoruba god, Shango and St. Barbara at the Jersey City Museum from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The reception is free and open to the public. For more info call 201-547-4279.

NOW THRU MARCH 5
MONTCLAIR—An art exhibition entitled "Emma Amos: Changing the Subject." A portrait of women and African-American women throughout the history of art, will be on display at the Montclair Art Museum. For more info call 201-746-5555.

JANUARY 10 THRU FEBRUARY 5
NEW YORK—"Younger Man Dilemma" starring Mike Jackson will be at the Beacon Theater. For more info call 212-496-7070.

JANUARY 13 THRU FEBRUARY 5
NEW BRUNSWICK—Lorraine Hansberry's "A Raisin in the Sun" will be at the George Street Playhouse with 8 p.m. performances (Tues-Sat) and 2 and 7 p.m. performances (Sun except 2/5). For more info call 908-246-7717.

JANUARY 13 THRU FEBRUARY 26
SUMMIT—A Heroes and Heroines: From Myth to Reality exhibit opens in the Palmer Gallery. For more info call 908-273-9121.

JANUARY 17 THRU FEBRUARY 19
NEW BRUNSWICK—To Be Young Gifted and Black: The World of Lorraine Hansberry will be at the Crossroads, replacing What Use Are Flowers? For more info call 908-246-5590.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22
NEWARK—The NJ Symphony Orchestra will commemorate the 100th of the birth of African-American composer William Grant Still as part of the Classic Tradition Series at 2:30 p.m. For more info call 201-624-3713.

WATCHUNG—The Red Lion Jazz band will make its debut at the Watchung Arts Center at 8 p.m. For more info call 908-753-0190.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27
WATCHUNG—Pianist Derek Smith returns to the Jazz Series at the Watchung Arts Center at 8 p.m. For more info call 908-753-0190.

MARCH 10-26
BROOKLYN—The Dance Theatre of Harlem returns to Brooklyn Academy of Music. For more info call 212-907-6480.

Send Billboard Calendar events to
City News
 144 North Ave.
 Plainfield, NJ 07060

A Raisin In The Sun comes to New Brunswick

NEW BRUNSWICK—The daily joys and furies, hopes and hungers of a family striving for the American dream come to life in the George Street Playhouse production of the award-winning play *A Raisin In The Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry.

A Raisin In The Sun is the story of three generations of the Younger family who are packed in a sunless Chicago South Side tenement flat. Lena (Mama), dreams of moving into her own home; her son Walter, who finds his character's uniform a straitjacket, dreams of owning a liquor store and being his own person; his younger sister Beneatha, a race-conscious progressive, dreams of medical school and Walter's wife Ruth yearns for a

gross escape from the sordid-and-asphyxiating jungle.

When the family collects their father's \$10,000 life insurance settlement, they believe their dreams are about to be realized. However, the Younger's vision of what the future holds is threatened by racism and household conflict, and only a mother's love, courage and determination can keep this family from tearing apart and their dreams from shattering.

With previews beginning on January 7, 1995, this co-production opens in New Brunswick on January 13, closes on February 5 and then moves to the Ford's Theatre, Washington, D.C., where it opens on February 10.

Daniel Greene's exhibition 'Subway Series II—Rapid Transit Riders'

NEW YORK—Daniel E. Greene, one of America's most distinguished artists, has found a new creative focus for his art in the solitary travelers and the monotonous, pragmatic and architecture of New York City's subway system, "Subway Series II—Rapid Transit Riders." In Greene's second exhibition of paintings and pastels with the subway as its theme and opened Friday, December 2 at the Gallery Helene, 90 W. 40th Street in New York City's SoHo district.

"Subway Series II—Rapid Transit Riders" continues Greene's highly acclaimed exhibition "Subway Series," that was opened in 1992 by Mayor David Dinkins.

"The New York City Subway System,"

Greene says, "But in this world when it opened in October 27, 1904, used the most modern engineering to transport its millions of riders, yet established the stations with old-fashioned decorative wall plaques and mosaics to soften the harshness of the underground tunnels. From my point of view, these designs have resulted in a collage of color choices for my paintings."



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 Somerset St. & Wall St. at Train Station
 Rt. 27 & Albany St.
 361 George St. at Burger King
 George St. & Monument St.
 Bayard St. at Middlesex County Court House
 Bayard St. & Kirkpatrick St. at Post Office
 67 Paterson St. at Board of Chosen Freeloaders

PLAINFIELD

716 W Front St. at White Star
 East Front St. & Madison Ave. at McDonald's
 East Front St. & Somerset St.
 East Front St. & Watching Ave.
 East Front St. & Roosevelt Ave. at Union County Dept of Human Svs.
 East 2nd & Church at Union County College
 East 2nd St. & Watching Ave. at YMCA
 W 4 St. at Train Station
 Park Ave. & East 5th St. at Red Tower Restaurant
 Park Ave. & East 7th St.
 Park Ave. & Crescent Ave.
 Park Ave. & Randolph Rd. at Muhlenberg Hospital
 South Ave. & Leland Ave. at Burger King
 South Ave. at Foodtown

NEWARK

1060 Broad St. at Bus Stop
 Essex Plaza Towers
 Walnut & Orchard St. at Department of Justice Building
 Broad St. at Bus Stop Across From City Hall
 East 2nd & Market St. on Each Corner
 Broad St. at Prudential Building
 Broad St. & Cedar St.
 Broad St. & Military Park Bus Stop
 540 Broad St. & Lombardi St. at Bell Atlantic Building

MARKET ST. & RAYMOND PLAZA

at Penn Station Bus Stop
 Raymond Blvd. & Mulberry St. at PSE&G Bldg.
 Park Place Robert Treat Hotel
 Central Ave. at St. Michael's Hospital Medical Center
 New St. & University Ave. at Rutgers University
 Martin Luther King Blvd. County Executive Office
 South Ave. & Bergen St. at University Hospital
 South Ave. & Bergen St. at Pathmark

ELIZABETH

Elmora Ave. & West Grand St. at Foodtown
 Elmora Ave. & West Grand St. at Dunkin Donuts
 Rahway Ave. at Dunkin Donuts
 Broad St. & Rahway Ave. at Library
 Rahway Ave. at Bus Stop
 Rahway Ave. & E. Town Plaza
 Elmora Ave. at Foodtown
 Broad St. & Rahway at Court House
 Broad St. & Dickinson at McDonald's
 Broad St. & West Jersey St. at Bus Stop
 North Broad St. & West Grand at The Bus Stop
 North Broad St. at Post Office

IRVINGTON

Springfield Ave. at Bus Depot
 Springfield Ave. New St. at Bus Stop
 Springfield Ave. & Civic Square at Post Office
 Civic Square at City Hall

JERSEY CITY

Newark Ave. & Summit at Jersey City Public Library
 595 Newark Ave.
 Newark Ave. Court House
 Summit & Magnolia Dunkin Donuts
 Journal Square
 Sip Ave. & Journal Square

The Whispers Christmas album now in stores

LOS ANGELES—Legendary R&B vocal group, The Whispers, stopped by the historic Capitol Records Hollywood tower last week to share in the second annual tree lighting ceremony. This year's celebration honored 400 children, ages 4 to 14 years old, from the Los Angeles Department of Children's Services and the Selma Avenue School.

Following the lighting of the tree, the children were invited to sing "Jingle Bells" with The Whispers, who have recently released Christmas Moments, their first Christmas album in 13 years. The group has just finished recording a brand new album, *Toast To The Ladies*, scheduled to be released early next year.



Pictured (L-R): The Whispers' Walter Scott and Nicholas Caldwell; Capitol Records' Ruth Carson, vice president, Creative Marketing; and The Whispers' Wallace "Scotty" Scott and Leavelle Degree.

Time Warner AudioBooks releases Mandela's autobiography

LOS ANGELES—Time Warner AudioBooks announces the release of *Long Walk to Freedom*, the powerful autobiography of South African president Nelson Mandela narrated by Academy Award winning actor Danny Glover. The program is currently available at book, music, and video stores.

Highlighting portions of Mandela's famous "Pass and Release" speech and his stirring inaugural speech, *Long Walk to Freedom* reveals the story of Mandela's struggle and survival amidst the oppressive system of apartheid. The six-hour program features music

by the renowned African musical group, Ladysmith Black Mambazo, with traditional African music performed by African band, Themba.

World-famous political leader and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, Nelson Mandela tells of his pivotal role in the formation of the African National Congress (ANC) Youth League, of the dramatic underground years that led to his 1964 sentence to life imprisonment, and of the surprisingly eventful quarter-century that followed before his triumphant release in 1990.

Shanice takes her talents to Broadway

NEW YORK—International recording artist Shanice will make her Broadway debut as "Eponine" in Cameron Mackintosh's production of *LES MISERABLES* beginning January 17 at the Imperial Theater. The 21 year-old singer will play the role of limited engagement through March 26 only.

Shanice's debut in *LES MISERABLES* is the result of two years of courting by the show's executive producer/associate director, Richard Jay-Alexander, who had seen the star's hit video "I Love Your Smile" one night on television and decided that she

Raised by a foster father, a Tembu tribal child who was caught and quickly got her first big break: a national television commercial opposite the legendary Ella Fitzgerald. Soon thereafter, Shanice was featured in such local L.A. theater productions as *The Fantasticks* at the L.A. Inner City Playhouse. In *Command of the Children* and *Get Happy* at the Westwood Playhouse. It was while performing in *Get Happy* that Shanice was discovered by A&M Records, who quickly offered the 11 year old her first recording contract.

For tickets and information for

Telecharge at (212) 239-6200.

"Eponine."

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 RANDALL MILLER

STARTS FRIDAY, JANUARY 6 AT THEATRES EVERYWHERE
 SNEAK PREVIEW SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

Business Calendar

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28
EATONTOWN—UJAMAA (Co-Operative Economics) Networking Awards Dinner for progressive minorities. Sponsored by G.S.M. Productions. Increase your contact base and meet other upwardly mobile individuals. For info call 908-269-6144.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30
EAST ORANGE, NJ—NJ United Minority Business Brain Trust's Holiday Celebration. Fun, networking, refreshments, at Everbrow Construction Company from 6 to 9 p.m. For info call 908-246-3332.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6
NEWARK—Government Contracts for Small Business at the NJIT PTA Center. Free. For info call 201-596-3105

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7
JERSEY CITY—Establishing Your Own Exporting Company. 6-week course sponsored by the Hudson County Community College Center for Business and Industry from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. For info call 201-714-2154.

MONDAY, JANUARY 9
NEW BRUNSWICK—Increasing Your Success on Sales Calls. An interactive presentation sponsored by NJAWBO at the Hyatt Regency from 6 to 9 p.m. For info call 908-721-3030.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10
SADDLEBROOK—Business Opportunity Seminar. Also January 17 & 24. Sponsored by Sharline's Services. For info call 908-985-7207.

JERSEY CITY—Finance Workshop sponsored by the SBA at Hudson County Community College from 8:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. For info call 908-527-2946.

PHILADELPHIA—Business Opportunity Seminar. Also January 17 & 24. Sponsored by Sharline's Services. For info call 908-985-7207.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11
WOODBRIDGE—Business Opportunity Seminar. Also January 18 & 25. Sponsored by Sharline's Services. For info call 908-985-7207.

MORRISTOWN—SCORE and the Morris County Chamber of Commerce sponsor a One Stop Shop for a Business Loan at the Chamber office, 10 Park Avenue from 8:30 a.m. to noon. For info call 201-539-3882.

NEW YORK—Business Opportunity Seminar. Also January 18 & 25. Sponsored by Sharline's Services. For info call 908-985-7207.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12
MORRISTOWN—Business Opportunity Seminar. Also January 19 & 26. Sponsored by Sharline's Services. For info call 908-985-7207.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14
NEWARK—Senator Wynona Lipman's Saturday Seminar. Information of interest to the small, minority and women owned business from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. For info call 201-622-0007.

TRENTON—Government Contracts for Small Business sponsored by the NJIT PTA Center. For info call 609-742-0584.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17
NEWARK—Pre Business Seminar on Starting Your Own Business sponsored by SCORE. Held at Bell Atlantic, 540 Broad Street from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call 201-645-3882.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18
MT. HOLLY—Starting A Business, sponsored by the HSBC. For info call 609-927-4950.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19
BRIDGEWATER—Independent Contractors. Subcontractors seminar sponsored by the Somerset County Chamber of Commerce. Call 908-725-1552.

EDISON—Government Contracts for Small Business sponsored by the NJIT PTA Center. For info call 609-742-0584.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20
LINCROFT—The International Business Roundtable will meet from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. in the RVCV Weigo Theatre to share common interests in the field of international trade. For info call 908-526-1200.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25
PLAINFIELD—Black Business Association of Plainfield meeting at the Mohawk Lodge at 7:30 p.m. For info call 908-561-5596.

MAYS LANDING—Government Contracts for Small Business sponsored by the NJIT PTA Center. For info call 609-742-0584.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26
FREEHOLD—NJAWBO Regional Meeting. For info call 908-842-0529.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31
PHILADELPHIA—Fundamentals of Marketing: Modern Concepts and Practices. Sponsored by the AMA. For info call 1-800-262-9699.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1
HOUSTON—World of Opportunity: Solutions for Minority Entrepreneurs seminar. Sponsored by the American Association of Minority Businesses, Inc. For info call 1-800-381-2292.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3
WAYNE—Farmer New York City Mayor David Dinkins will discuss the Future of the American City during the William Paterson Distinguished Lecture Series. For info call 201-595-2965.

Send Business Calendar events to
P.O. Box 1774
Plainfield, NJ 07061

Businesses get aid in bidding for government contracts



Union County Freeholder Chairman Frank Lehr, seated right, signs agreement for the Procurement Technical Assistance program with Dept. of Defense representative Col. Thomas J. Quigley. Looking on are Deputy County Manager and Public Safety Director Harold Gibson, seated, left, and standing, from left, Maureen Tinen, President, Union County Economic Development Corp.; James O'Grady, Director of the Procurement, Assistance Program at the corporation; Sylvia Liggins of Scotch Plains, Dept. of Defense Deputy for Small Business, and Benjamin Aris, Small Business Specialist, Dept. of Defense.

BUSINESS EXCHANGE

Poor attitudes: we are how we think

by William Reed

Free your mind, and the rest of your body parts will soon follow. Think about it: isn't it true that black Americans, in general, have developed a mind-set of being "poor," and our overall actions continually project that image? Don't you think that if more of us were to start thinking about collective wealth building we would eliminate most of the ills that currently plague our communities?

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, fully one-third of black Americans are poor. While 12 percent of whites are poor, and, surprisingly, over 15 percent of Asians are estimated to be poor. Hispanics, like blacks, have almost a third of their population in the poverty ranks.

The Current Population Survey shows that 39.3 million Americans lived in poverty in 1993. In 1993, the poverty threshold for a four-person family was \$14,763. The median household income in America stood at \$31,241 in 1993.

If you look around you, can you identify many among your family and friends who have greater household incomes than \$31,241? Surely then you can easily see that the bulk of blacks in America are not, in reality, poor. Although we are continually told, by those that speak for us, that we are poor, note that the annual collective income for African Americans is in excess of \$390 billion and is projected to reach \$400 billion by the year 2000.

The annual income of black Americans is more than that of 85 percent of the countries on the planet. All things considered in regards to our economic situation, is the glass half full for our economic salvation, or is it half empty?

If more of us were to free our minds of a "poor attitude" we'd make more progress toward collective wealth-building. If more of us freed our minds of the self-hate that continually manifests itself in our actions, African American society would increase in stability, social standing and image.

If we used the free-enterprise process correctly we would stop spending our money at the rates that we currently do outside our community. If we got rid of the "poor attitude" we'd take the simple step of depositing our money in black-owned banks for black wealth-building and we'd get together with others in our community and invest in neighborhood stores, super markets and shopping centers to better serve our inner city communities.

Our "poor attitude" is the root of the many social problems that are overwhelming us as a people. There is no question in the minds of social planners that economic insecurity destroys our families. Our "poor attitude" breeds crime and engenders personal and emotional insecurity that, in turn, produce self-destructive behavior and a disrespect for other people's property and lives. Who among us doesn't believe that we are the ongoing victims of our own "poor attitude." No doubt, every major social problem plaguing our communities would be eliminated if we were to direct more of our attention and actions toward collective wealth-building and financial security.

The basic components of economics are: Land, labor, capital and entrepreneurship. And, the way to build wealth in a capitalist society is through business ownership and investments, owning and/or controlling

and each take a good look at ourselves and our actions over the last 30 years. If we changed our current attitude about ourselves, and each other, we'd move to start shopping with other blacks, on purpose, and the few of us in business would give top-notch service to our clients.

If we stop thinking poor, we'd start to pool our monies and buy real estate, banks and a couple of high-ranking politicians. If we freed our minds, we'd stop doing all the dumb things we've been doing individually, and as a group. Only then will we stop getting the lowly status and treatment that we've been getting.

ELIZABETH—Union County and the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) recently signed an agreement for a countywide program that provides technical aid to businesses in bidding for federal, state and local government contracts.

"This program, the Procurement Technical Assistance Program, is a greater opportunity for county businesses to secure government contracts through education, technical assistance and advocacy," said County Freeholder Chairman Frank Lehr. "Matching funds of \$103,000 will be provided by the DOD to the county, which is subcontracting the program to the Union County Economic Development Corporation."

Business people have been notorious for avoiding the involvement of the red tape of government contracts, and surveys show that less than 20 percent of businesses in the Union County area have ever pursued or been awarded a government contract.

Federal, state and local governments together comprise a multibillion

dollar market for every kind of service or product available, according to Union County Manager Ann Baran. "This represents a multi-million dollar potential for increased sales and production for Union County Businesses. It also represents an increase in jobs and tax revenues for the county," said Baran.

The Union County Economic Development Corp. has a computerized system that matches specific government contracts with the products and services of their clients, according to Maureen Tinen, the corporation's president.

"We also provide technical assistance with bid preparation and post-award contract administration," said Tinen. "We hope to increase the num-

ber of clients served by this program. Formerly, the program was successfully managed by the Elizabeth Development Company, with matching dollars from the City of Elizabeth."

Products and services sold to the government vary from cleaning supplies and services to computer and high technology electronics.

"You name it, the government buys it," said Col. Thomas Quigley, Commander of the Defense Contract Management Operations in Springfield, who represented the DOD in the agreement signing.

For further information on the program, call James O'Grady at the Union County Economic Development Corp. at 908-527-1166.

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Continuous support is vital for the success of M/WBEs

An open letter to minority and women business enterprises

Dear M/WBE:

If you have, or hope to, obtain procurement opportunities and contracts as a result of congressionally mandated minority business programs (including SBA's 8(a) program, PL95-507, and PL96-661), your continued success in this market may well lie within the lines of this letter. Please do not underestimate the severity that your lack of response can have. You are needed to participate financially, spiritually, and actively in the continued fight for equal opportunity, and equal opportunity, for minority and women business enterprises (M/WBE).

As you know, The BrainTrust, which was established more than fifteen years ago by former U.S. Congressman Warren J. Mitchell, is a national MBE advocacy organization dedicated to addressing the concerns of, and enhancing the economic opportunities for minority business enterprises (MBE's). Over the years, the BrainTrust has supported the efforts of public and private sector leaders to ensure that MBE's have the opportunity to fully and fairly participate in the economic mainstream. In this regard, the BrainTrust, and other MBE advocacy organizations around the country, have again been called upon by Congressman Mitchell, under the auspices of the Minority Business Enterprise Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc. (MBELDEF), to collectively voice outrage over the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to hear an appeal from the 10th Circuit Court concerning its Adarand Con-

tractors v. Peña, et al. (10th Circuit, 1994) ruling. Additionally, M/WBE's must provide financial support to support MBELDEF's legal involvement in this matter in this regard, our NJ BrainTrust has committed its total support to this extremely important effort.

The basis of this challenge is that the plaintiff, a majority-owned construction company, is seeking judicial relief from compliance with the "subcontracting compensation clause" implemented by the Central Federal Lands Highway Division of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

In brief, this challenge has been mounted to strike at the very heart of congressionally enacted M/WBE programs, such as the SBA's 8(a) Program, the Mentor Protégé Program, and other goal-oriented M/WBE business development programs sponsored by all departments of the federal government in the complaint. Adarand Constructors alleged that the use of race as a factor in awarding federal procurement con-

tracts in Colorado, without any findings of past discrimination in that state, violated the equal protection guarantees of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments, as well as the privileges and immunities guaranteed by other such federally enacted laws and acts. Adarand is saying that less than 1 percent of federal business contracted to MBE's as prime or subcontractors, should be added to the 99 percent the non-MBE's already receives.

This challenge can have broad reaching implications on the continuation of congressionally mandated minority business programs. The 10th Circuit Court affirmed the judgment of the District Court's ruling to "uphold the constitutionality of federal programs designed to provide contract awards for businesses owned by certain minority groups." Should the 10th Circuit Court's ruling be overturned, it could mean the dismantling of all federal MBE/WBE/DBE programs, and subsequently, all corporate programs where compliance rests sole-

ly on federal laws. Furthermore, it could cause the demise of M/WBE and Affirmative Action Divisions within state and local governments, agencies, and authorities. It could also precipitate the dismantling of the NAACP's Fair Share Program, and other such programs that encourage private corporations to do business with MBE's.

The last time the Supreme Court reviewed the constitutionality of minority business opportunity programs in *Crosby v. City of Richmond*, minority business programs in state and local governments were summarily dismantled. As a result, hundreds of millions of dollars in opportunity were deliberately and systematically denied to our businesses. Former Congressman Mitchell has said that, "the number of MBE programs around the country before the Crosby decision stood at approximately 230. In less than six months after the decision, half of those were either dismantled, suspended, or challenged. By the end of the year, they were practically all gone, along with hundreds of minority businesses." Congress, in good faith, has sought

through these programs, to end the perpetuation of the effects of prior discrimination which impaired the access of MBE's to economic opportunities in this country.

Now the Court wishes to reconstruct those barriers and to place the well being of this entire country in the hands of a privileged few. Mitchell further stated that, "We must make not only the Supreme Court, but this country, and its leadership, hear our cry of outrage. MBE's must rally around this injustice and let their collective voices be heard."

The NJ BrainTrust is again stepping forward to support MBELDEF's efforts in this matter. To this end, the NJ BrainTrust has donated a significant portion of the proceeds from its Second Annual Theater Party, held recently at the Crossroads Theater, New Brunswick, NJ. Additionally as important, the NJ BrainTrust, in conjunction with other M/WBE advocacy organizations, is asking that you

Write a check (minimum of \$100), payable to MBELDEF, with the amount reflecting what these spe-

cial M/WBE programs have meant/can mean to the economic growth and development of your company. Please your send check to the NJ BrainTrust for coordination of delivery to MBELDEF.

Write your Congress(women), and local elected officials, to express your outright indignation and disgust about the Supreme Court's potential dismantling of federally mandated M/WBE development programs, and ask them to review and speak out on the hearings held prior to Congress passing legislation.

Inform your colleagues about the importance of this matter, and of the urgency for their financial support and involvement; and

Plan to attend a rally, on January 14, 1995, in Washington, DC, the day before the Supreme Court is scheduled to hear the appeal.

Again, please do not underestimate the importance of this matter, or the urgency for your involvement.

Eugene Baucum, Jr.
NJ BrainTrust Chairperson
908-757-4721

Nubian Santa

(Continued from page 1)

Santa revealing their Christmas wishes:

Kelly Bryant writes:

I wish that you give poor people, food, coats, water and a warm place to sleep. And I hope it is okay with you to give to poor people, because when I see one, I want to give food and a coat. My heart is all I got for them.

Linda Bradley writes:

I hope that you have a nice Christmas day. I hope that you give the homeless people a gift. I also hope the children who don't know who their parents are, I hope that they find out. I hope that the people who sell drugs, I hope that they stop. I want you to get me a shirt and pants.

Shakir McDonald writes:

I want the homeless to have a family and a home, food, clothes, and two-hundred dollars each. Because people don't have God. I want three hundred dollars in our own bank. I want everybody to get three presents each.

Sue Ellen Lambert writes:

I wish for the homeless people to come off the street and have a Christmas and a home, and get all the drug dealers to come off the street and stop selling drugs.

Karen Harris writes:

I will like it if you will give to the homeless first, and if you can give me a new top/sy tail and a walkman, and well, you can give to the homeless too. I know that they need something special. If you can make a miracle, please make one for them. I hope that this is not too much to ask for, can you give me that?

Crystal Valentine writes:

I hope that you can buy the homeless people something and me something, but what I really like for you to stop people from stealing cars and buy them something for Christmas and to stop the drug people too. And stop them from writing on people's houses. Santa, help God to have this world at peace and no shooting. And help American people and African people. Let this world love all and not hate and I want a lot of clothes and toys.

David Hampton writes:

I want you to give the homeless \$1,000 dollars for clothes, food, a home and presents. Have a nice and happy Christmas. I want a Baman, power ranger, joke book, \$5,000, G.I. Joe, pants, snow suit, coat and snow.

Shawn Singleton writes:

I wish the people on the street have a home like every boy and girl and a coat to wear. Nubian Santa that is the wish. I hope that I can count on you.



Our family of publications invites you to join us in practicing and living the principles of Kwanzaa throughout the New Year

Umoja (ooMO-jah) Unity

Kujichagulia (koo-jee-cha-goo-LEE-ah) Self-determination

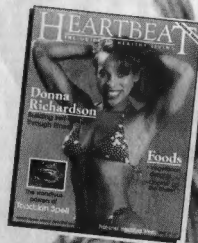
Ujima (oo-JEE-mah) Collective Work and Responsibility

Ujamaa (oo-jah-MAH) Cooperative Economics

Nia (NEE-ah) Purpose

Kuumba (kooO-UH-mbah) Creativity

Imani (ee-MAH-nee) Faith



HAPPY NEW YEAR!